

Applicant: Robert H. Osborn Jr.
Application Serial No.: 10/803,642
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REMARKS

The application has been amended. Claim 1 has been amended and claim 3 has been canceled. Currently claims 1 and 4-11 are pending.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 3-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,929,383 to Marik et al. (hereinafter "Marik") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,685,575 to Allread et al. (hereinafter "Allread"). In view of the amendments to the claims, this determination is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to now specifically recite an electrical fitting including a connector body, a gland nut attachable to the body, a sealing ring interposed between the gland nut and the body and an insulated throat supported on the body wherein both the sealing ring and insulated throat are formed of a high temperature resistant nylon 4/6.

The Examiner notes that Marik discloses a fitting having a sealing ring formed of high temperature resistant material. The Examiner also notes, however, that Marik fails to disclose that the sealing ring is made from nylon 4/6. Moreover, the Examiner alleges that Marik discloses an insulated throat formed of high temperature resistant material. However, like the sealing ring, Marik fails to disclose that the insulated throat is formed of nylon 4/6.

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The Examiner cites to the Allread reference alleging that Allread discloses a sealing ring made from nylon 4/6. The Examiner contends that it would have been obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the ring of Marik with the Allread ring formed of nylon 4/6.

Claim 1 has been amended specifically to recite that the fitting includes both a sealing ring and an insulated throat. Further, claim 1 specifically recites that the sealing ring is formed of the same material. More specifically, that material is a high temperature resistant nylon 4/6.

As noted by the Examiner, Marik fails to disclose that either its sealing ring or its insulated throat could be formed of nylon 4/6. Furthermore, Allread discloses only that a sealing ring can be formed of nylon 4/6. Allread fails to show an insulated throat at all. This is understandable in as much as Allread is not a fitting for electrical conduit, but rather a fluid coupling. No insulated throat would be necessary. Therefore, even if one were to combine Allread and Marik it would still fail to disclose or suggest the limitations of amended claim 1.

Allread does show a second ring 40 in the nature of a seal. However, Allread specifically recites that the seal and the ring are made of different materials (column 3, lines 12-14). Thus, Allread actually teaches away from forming a sealing ring and insulated throat of the same nylon 4/6. Accordingly, the combination of Marik and Allread fails to disclose, teach or suggest the limitations set forth in amended claim 1.

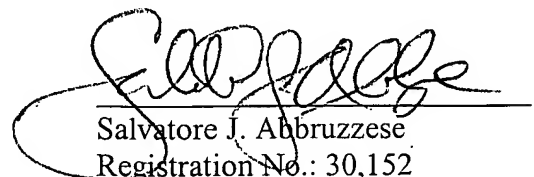
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Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 and claims 4-11 which depend therefore are patentably distinct over the cited combination. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2461. Such authorization includes authorization to charge fees for extensions of time, if any, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and also should be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in this reply or any future reply pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the above, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,


Salvatore J. Abbruzzese
Registration No.: 30,152
Attorney for Applicant(s)

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(973) 331-1700